

### REMARKS

In a communication mailed August 23, 2004, the Office indicated that the Applicants' amendment filed May 27, 2004, did not comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) because the word "a" was deleted from claim 36 without the required markings. Applicants note that previously the word "a" had been deleted from claim 36 in the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment transmitted by facsimile on July 7, 2003. Nevertheless, to comply with the Office's communication, Applicants submit this Supplemental Amendment, which deletes the word "a" from claim 36 using double-brackets, as required in 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(2).

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

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